

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Acadia National Park Advisory Commission

Report Run Date: 06/05/2019 04:38:48 PM

1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Acadia National Park Advisory Commission

3b. GSA Committee No.

71

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

03/29/2011

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

09/25/2026

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

P.L. 99-420

13. Effective Date

09/25/1986

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c.

Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 5 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 1 17d. Total 6 Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Twelve members attended, 2 absent, 2 vacant seats. Also in attendance were eight members of the park staff, approximately 30 members of the public, Regional Representative for Senator King, Rep for Friends of Acadia, President & CEO for Schoodic Institute, and news media. Kevin Schnieder reported the Superintendent's Report, to include the Transportation Plan, update on Boundary/Intertidal Legislation, update on Proposed Increase to Park Entrance Fee, and an update on acquisition of Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse. Program Leads reported on the lease of Blue Duck on Islesford, work with tribal communities on plant gathering in the park, construction in the park, Highway 3 construction & in-park detour, and the pilot program on the information desk and permit sales at Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce. Schoodic Institute and Friends of Acadia provided a summary of partnership programs and activities. There were no committee meetings or reports.

Start

End

03/12/2018 - 03/12/2018

	Ten members attended, 4 absent, 2 vacant seats. Also in attendance were eight members of the park staff, approximately 30 members of the public, Regional Representative for Senator King, Rep for Friends of Acadia, President & CEO for Schoodic Institute, and news media. The Superintendent, Kevin Schneider, gave an update on the Transportation Plan and a review of the Preferred Alternative. Program Leads reported on the increase to park entrance fees, the Sieur de Mont flooding the Winter of 2018, and maintenance and facility updates in the park. The Commission voted on the election of officers. Ben Emory was nominated as the Chair of the Lands Committee. They gave a report on ANP's briefing on their work with the Otter Creek Aid Society and the Town of Mt. Desert on Otter Creek issues. Schoodic Institute and Friends of Acadia provided a summary of partnership programs and activities.	06/04/2018 - 06/04/2018
	Ten members attended, 3 absent, 3 vacant seats. Also in attendance were nine members of the park staff, approximately eight members of the public, Regional Representative for Senator King, President & CEO for Friends of Acadia, President & CEO for Schoodic Institute, and news media. The Superintendent, Kevin Schneider, reported on the Transportation Plan. A Comment Summary Report on the Draft Transportation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement was distributed to the Commission. Program Leads reported on the Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse acquisition, Acadia National Park workforce housing initiative, and deferred maintenance. The Park Use Committee and the Science Committee reported. Schoodic Institute and Friends of Acadia provided a summary of partnership programs and activities.	09/10/2018 - 09/10/2018
[Land Committee]	The Land's Committee met with NPS staff regarding concerns of Otter Creek raised at the meeting on March 12, 2018. It was recommended they communicate with the Town of Mount Desert for comments. The Lands Committee will follow up based on the response from the Town of Mount Desert.	06/04/2018 - 06/04/2018
[Park Use Committee]	Met to review and discuss the draft Acadia National Park Transportation Plan. They submitted the following resolution to the full Commission for approval: Park Use Committee submits the following resolution regarding the Transportation Plan: The Park is to be commended for its outreach efforts throughout this multi-year planning process, which included providing a multitude of means for the public to access information and proactively traveling to engage with various communities and other major stakeholders to seek feedback in addition to the formal public comment period. The Commission also appreciates the staff's efforts in preparing the summary of public comments. There is a clear need for change. Doing nothing under the present circumstances, without even considering potential increases in future visitation, would be a mistake. The alternatives proposed by the Park are well thought out and the Park's pledge to use an adaptive process as they manage the changes is key to a successful outcome. As such, we consider Alternative C to be the best option, though we would like to specify one consideration.... The Committee understands that many of the suggestions read and heard throughout this process will be addressed during the next phase of implementation. Request that the Park maintain dialogue with the Commission on the details of that implementation. That said, the committee is compelled to note that based on public feedback, the Park should seek multiple opportunities to accommodate local residents such as expanding winter ½ price pass sales to include reservations and re-evaluating the current proposed days and times for requiring reservations.	09/10/2018 - 09/10/2018
[Science and Education Committee]	Reviewed and discussed park research projects. Presently there are 71 external research projects. Recommended having a future look at research projects in the park.	09/10/2018 - 09/10/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 6

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$37,125.00	\$37,500.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00

18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$300.00	\$300.00
18d. Total	\$37,425.00	\$37,800.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.20	0.20

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Commission reviews and makes recommendations to accept proposed easements. The Commission also provides advice and recommendations on various operational issues at the park, such as visitor use, science, education, and cultural resource and historic preservation.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

As prescribed by the enabling legislation, the sixteen-member Commission is composed of: (a) three members at large; (b) three members from among individuals recommended by the Governor of Maine; (c) four members from among recommendations by each of the four towns on the island of Mount Desert; (d) three members from among individuals recommended by each of the three Hancock county mainland communities of Gouldsboro, Winter Harbor and Trenton; (e) three members from among recommendations by each of the three island towns of Cranberry isles, Swans island and Frenchboro. The members represent the interests of property owners, fishermen, businessmen, lawyers, academics, conservationists, recreationists, as well as the interests of towns, counties and state concerns. The terms of all members were reappointed in FY2016, with the exception of the representative of the Town of Cranberry Isles, whose appointment expired in 2014 and no recommendations have been received. There is no representative for the Town of Frenchboro and no recommendations have been received. The Advisory Commission terms are all due to expire in 2019.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Commission meets an average of three times per year, with committee work in between full meetings. This schedule has proved practical for their accomplishments and duties. The Committee members assist with the necessary research and communication to arrive at sound decisions for full Commission discussions. At full Commission meetings the Commissioners function as advisors concerning subject areas under deliberation.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Commission was established by the Congress to consult with the Secretary of the

Interior on matters relating to the management and development of Acadia National Park, including but not limited to, the acquisition of lands and interests in lands (including conservation easements on islands), and termination of rights-of-use and occupancy. Qualified advice concerning issues that affect a wide array of subjects from those of simple local property owners to those that affect town, county, and state interests can only be attained from individuals who possess fundamental knowledge, understanding, and interest in those areas. For example, the Commissioners' first-hand knowledge and understanding of property owners affected by easements provided valuable insights for park management to proceed in a more effective manner.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

Pursuant to Section 301(a)(b), Public Law 102-525, October 26, 1992, regarding charters and members of National Park System Advisory Committees: (a) The provisions of section 14(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Appendix; 86 Stat. 776) are hereby waived with respect to any advisory commission or advisory committee established by law in connection with any national park system unit during the period such advisory commission or advisory committee is authorized by law. (b) In the case of any advisory commission or advisory committee established in connection with any national park system unit, any member of such commission or committee may serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor is appointed. The Commission terminated September 25, 2006, but was re-established by Public Law 110-229, May 8, 2008, Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008; EXTENSION OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION. (1) IN GENERAL— Section 103(f) of Public Law 99-420 (16 U.S.C. 341 note) is amended by striking “20” and inserting “40”. (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on September 25, 2006. The Commission will carry out its duties until September 25, 2026.

Designated Federal Officer

Kevin Schneider Superintendent, Acadia National Park

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Cline, Kenneth	03/31/2016	03/31/2019	Professor, College of the Atlantic	Representative Member
Ehrlenbach, R. Frederick	02/19/2016	02/19/2019	Town of Trenton	Representative Member
Emory, Benjamin	02/19/2016	02/19/2019	Retired	Representative Member
Gothard, Carolyn	02/19/2016	02/19/2019	Town of Tremont	Representative Member

Heidinger, Katherine	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Town of Winter Harbor	Representative Member
Horton, Matthew	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Governor of Maine	Representative Member
Johnston, Jacqueline	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Town of Gouldsboro	Representative Member
Lee, Dexter	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Town of Swan's Island	Representative Member
Motenko, Howie	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Governor of Maine	Representative Member
Richardson (RESIGNED 06/04/18), Paul	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Town of Mount Desert	Representative Member
Shea, Stephen	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Governor of Maine	Representative Member
Smith, Kenneth	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Town of Bar Harbor	Representative Member
Wiersma, G. Bruce	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Dean, College of Natural Science, Forestry and Agriculture	Representative Member
Worcester, Ben	02/19/2016 02/19/2019 Town of Southwest Harbor	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 14

Narrative Description

Qualified advice concerning issues that affected a wide array of subjects, from those of simple local property owners to those that affect town, county, and state interests, can only be attained from individuals who possess fundamental knowledge, understanding and interest in those areas. The Commission provides a platform for public input on park issues.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

74

Number of Recommendations Comments

•A motion was approved to draft a letter to the Secretary of the Interior opposing an increase in park fees from \$25 to \$70. •A motion was approved for the Park Use Committee meet with the park staff to discuss the public comments on the draft Transportation Plan and report back to the full commission at the September meeting of the ANP Advisory Commission. •A motion was approved the commission take the position that it favors public comments on the Acadia National Park Draft Transportation Plan be available to the public. •Jacqueline Johnston was re-elected as ANP Advisory Commission Chair, Fred Ehrlenbach was re-elected as Vice Chair, and Carolyn Gothard was re-elected as Secretary. •A motion was approved to send a letter to the Town Manager of the Town of Mount Desert requesting any comments about the issues raised in the proposed resolution submitted to the ANP Advisory Commission by three members of the public at the March 12, 2018, meeting. •A motion was made acknowledging the resignation of Paul Richardson, ANP Advisory Commission, who served thirty years on the commission. This leaves the seat for a Representative to the Town of Mount Desert vacant. •A motion was approved to adopt the dates for the 2019 FY Acadia National Park Advisory Commission meetings as follows: Monday, February 4th, 1:00, ANP Headquarters, Bar Harbor Monday, June 3rd, 1:00, ANP Headquarters, Bar Harbor Monday, Sept. 9th, 1:00, Schoodic Institute, Winter Harbor •A motion was approved to elect G. Bruce Wiersma as the Chair to the Science Committee •Advisory Commission terms are all due to expire in 2019. A motion was approved to stagger terms to establish a

three year rotation schedule; starting with one, two and three year terms. Once the term expires, it converts to a three year term. This is to safeguard the commission has no more than one-third of the seats vacant any given year. •A motion was approved regarding the ANP Transportation Plan that doing nothing under the present circumstances, without even considering potential increases in future visitation, would be a mistake. The alternatives proposed by the Park are well thought out and the Park's pledge to use an adaptive process as they manage the changes is key to a successful outcome. As such, we consider Alternative C to be the best option, though we would like to specify one consideration.... The Committee understands that many of the suggestions read and heard throughout this process will be addressed during the next phase of implementation and request that the Park maintain dialogue with the Commission on the details of that implementation. That said, the committee is compelled to note that based on public feedback, the Park should seek multiple opportunities to accommodate local residents such as expanding winter ½ price pass sales to include reservations and re-evaluating the current proposed days and times for requiring reservations. 1986 to date: Proposed conservation easements, Commercial Use Plan; General Management plans; park uses.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

NA

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Briefings and reports at the Advisory Commission meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Not Applicable

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A